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Lawyers tell of plot here to kill JFK

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP)—Three attorneys in a news conference Tuesday said the Secret Service had known of a plot to kill President Kennedy in Chicago.

The information came from a former Secret Service agent, Abraham W. Bolden, 32, now imprisoned at the federal medical center in Springfield, his attorney, John Hosmer, said.

Hosmer, Mark Lane, a lawyer and author of a book on the Kennedy investigation, and Richard V. Burnes, assistant to Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison of New Orleans, held the news conference.

Garrison has instituted an inquiry in New Orleans. He has said he has evidence that a group of conspirators based in New Orleans was responsible for the assassination of Kennedy.

Hosmer, of Marshfield, Mo., said Bolden told him he was railroaded into prison after being refused permission to tell the Warren Commission about his information.

LANE SAID the Secret Service had been informed that an attempt on Kennedy's life would be made on a planned visit to Chicago. The President's appearance later was canceled, Lane said, out of fear for his safety.

The attorneys said Bolden told them that he and other agents even shadowed one suspect in Chicago as a result of the report. Bolden was sentenced in Chicago two years ago to six years' imprisonment for conspiring to sell official information in a counterfeiting case.

Bolden, first Negro named to the Secret Service's White House detail, was not in Dallas when Kennedy was shot and slain Nov. 22, 1963.

When Bolden was asked to testify before the Warren Commission, Hosmer said, he was arrested and convicted in the counterfeiting case on perjured testimony.

Convicted here for conspiracy

Abraham Bolden, former Secret Service agent, was convicted in U.S. District Court here in August, 1964, of conspiring to sell confidential government information.

At the time, Bolden said he was "framed" to keep him from testifying before the Warren Commission about alleged drinking and laxity among fellow Secret Service agents assigned to guard President Kennedy.

THE KEY WITNESS against Bolden was Joseph Spagnoli, then a suspect in a counterfeiting case. Spagnoli testified that Bolden offered him $25,000 to set up the sale of a Secret Service report on the counterfeiting ring for $50,000.

Spagnoli and five other men later were convicted of counterfeiting and conspiracy. During his own trial in District Court, Spagnoli testified that he had lied in his testimony during the Bolden trial.

However, Spagnoli did not disown that part of his testimoney that was most damaging to Bolden.

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